

L'ARTICOLO

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All citizens have equal social dignity and are equal before the law, without distinction of sex, race, language, religion, political opinion, personal and social conditions.

It is the duty of the Republic to remove all obstacles of an economic and social nature which constrain the freedom and equality of citizens, prevent the full development of the human person and the effective participation

of all workers in the political, economic and social development of the country.



Article 3

Italian Constitution

The article number 3, which expresses the **principle of equality** (and not of discrimination), it's one of the most important fundamentals of the Italian Constitution: it includes the values that derives from the French Revolution of the 1789 (liberté, égalité et fraternité) and from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

This article is one of the mainstay of the Italian Constitution, and its relevance is due to the fact that includes in itself the greatest human right: the **equal social dignity**, which is maintained by giving value to some sector (gender, religion, political opinions etc.), where the discriminations are more common.

The objective of this principle was to eliminate the **prejudices**: sure enough, It's essential to judge a person for what he really does and not based on prejudices.



The Italian Constitution indicates explicit prohibitions of discrimination:

- **The gender:** It imposes the elimination of every obstacle which impedes the equality of men and women in social, cultural and economic life.
- **The race:** It refers to the crimes related to the Jewish Shoah.
- **The language:** It refers to the nationalistic Fascist concept.
- **The religion:** It's the topic of the article 8 and 20, where it's expressed that every religion is admitted.
- **Political opinions:** It's the fundamental prerequisite of democracy, where everybody can compare with each other freely.
- **Personal and social conditions:** everyone is equal, therefore it's forbidden any type of privilege.



It's a legal standard very articulate no matter how simple can the message appear:

The first clause establishes the **formal equality**, which means that everyone is owner of the same duties and rights, inasmuch everybody is equal at law, and everyone must be, with equal measure, exposed to it. It also doesn't exist any type of privilege which allows to a single or to groups of people to put itself above the law.

The second clause establishes the **substantial equality**, through which the government assumes the task of removing the obstacles that limit in fact the freedom and the equality between people.



The government has the task to put everyone in the **same starting conditions**, giving to each one equal chances to develop and to achieve your own personality that has to be protected and defended, so, possible differences are aimed to make an actual equality and consequently to reach the substantial equality and the disparity of treatment is allowed to get an equality.

In Italy the principle of equality isn't entirely achieved: the sexual discriminations are particularly strong.

This highlights, in our opinion, the inability of the current political system to keep faith to the Italian Constitution.